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Australian Coalition for East Timor

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Enemy Operations:(1985)

1. In the border region:

In the first days of January, two battalions of the enemy attacked our two autonomous companies in four big fronts; one from Same, one from Fatukama, and others from Ainaro in the region of Kablaque, andMatalau and Zumalai, where they continued until the end of February.

2. In the Central Military Region:

In January the enemy reinforced its positions in the interior of the central military region.

On the 11th January, one front progressing from Manatuto, and another one from the west, both estimated at more than one battalion, converged in the creek of Be-Mane at the south-east of Lacluta.

On the 23rd January, another force, est. at about 2 battalions, went from Ossu/Venilale region progressing towards the mountain ranges of Betileu/Aitana/Lalime, and from there it departed to operate with the forces mentioned before, in the areas of Halioa, Aikaratik, Aikaritu, Maotao and Hammalaek, localities situated between Barique and Lacluta.

On the 2nd February, more forces, coming from the eastern point, moved along the creek of We-Pupu, building their positions from Tutuala?, Lalerek, Mutim and Kaek, Wavas, Maobara, Uato-Laru, Balae, and Bua Meni, and still with 2 positions covering south of Viqueque, 3 between Viqueque and Coajulara?, and another front from Bualurak and Viqueque.

To the west of the Central military region, one force estimated at one battalion, moved between areas of Fatuberliu, ALAS, Turiscai, Laclubar and Soibada.

3. In eastern point:

In all the months of January, while a force of over 3 battalions operated west of (Mt) Matebian, with fixed positions in Atemunu, Baatahu to Besibuti along the slope of Betebuilo, and in Tibarbua and Laisorulai, another 3 battalions operated from north of Leguman to the extreme east.

After the move made by the second unit to the east of Matebian, the enemy moved to the south, establishing positions from Biasion, Nucumalau?, Kaetau, Leticai, Ulacuba, Osumak; with the aim to intercept the retreat of the second unit.

In early February, 2 battalions moved towards the Central military region and to the northern belt of Legumou. The enemy proceeded to establish 17 fixed positions, at Esere, Uakala, Labalou, Seruwasa, Lalapu, Kailaka, Ubere, Asanadu, Buibui, Asadga, Maromalai, Seilui, Atewalari, Biramuni, Radala, Fotolaleia, Kitalua, apart from those Belevista and Olase that were already established.

To the west of Matebian, after we destroyed those fixed positions mounted along the road from Uato-Lari to Baaguia, the enemy returned to their positions in Sipalbua and Adebubu, mounting other fixed positions along the area of Fatukasiva, south of Builor, from where they departed to cleanup operations at Mt Builor.

4. At the National level:

The occupation of strategic points in the interior of our zones started to take place with fixed or temporary positions from where they departed for cleanup operations to particular zones, or preceded their counter-guerilla actions with ambushes along the way, destroying our resources.

The enemy presence is concentrated mainly in the areas where, at this time of year, food exists in abundance - breadfruit, jackfruit, and.....From May/June until December this year (1985) the distribution of the occupier will be in those places with resources, tending as you know, to become more to the north of the country where the food grows naturally.

Activities of Falintil (1985) :

1. In the border:

On the 5th of January, two platoons of the second autonomous company launched an assault over the camp Aucupau/Auba in the area of Bobonaro, wounding 13 enemy.

On 17th Jan, that company (Fretilin) assaulted the camps of Iliman and Sape/Aiassa of Ainaro. The enemy pursued the company, and in the combat the guerillas caused one death and one wounded to the occupation forces in the areas of Boavista/Bobonaro/Zumalai.

On 13th Feb, the guerillas assaulted the camps of Hatupo/Purami/Atsabe, causing four deaths to the enemy.

On 20th Feb, the same company assaulted the camps of Munibon/Bemori/Ainaro, causing eight deaths to the enemy.

On 28th Feb, one platoon of ....company of Atuseratelu/Manutas/Ainaro, caused four deaths to the local enemy security forces.

2. In the Centre region:

On the 5th Jan, between Fatuberliu and Nenalubi, an ambush made by a section of company three of the fourth unit over a platoon of native armed soldiers (Ratih), captured two LEs (belts) with lots of ammunition.

On the 11th of the same month, in Manehat, one platoon of the company A of the 4th unit, captured one LE and three FER and much ammunition in the battle with a platoon of native armed soldiers of Soibada.

On 12th Jan, on the road between Betano and Same, two sections of the company B of the 4th unit, captured one RKF and two mausers from a group of native armed soldiers.

On the 13th of Jan, two sections of the company A of the fourth unit got close to the village of Laklubar, infiltrated the camp of Otalalar, but there was no fighting because the security guards of the camp ran away.

On the 16th Jan, one platoon of company D of the fourth unit, got into the concentration camp of Ue-Susu/Alas, and also there was no resistance because the security forces ran away.

On the 22nd Jan, two sections of company B of unit 4 beat two platoons of TNI in Sarin causing many casualties to the enemy.

On 2nd Feb, one platoon of company B of unit 3 had a battle with a column of the battalion 612 to the east of Ai-tanak, during which they captured two AR15, with all its accessories, causing four dead and two wounded to the enemy forces.

3. In the Eastern point:

On the 1st Jan, one platoon of a company of unit two penetrated the camps of Sargata/Irabere/Uatokarbau, but there was no combat because the local security force ran away.

On 8th Jan, in Iliomar, in one combined action, effected by 2 platoons of company A of unit two, and one platoon of company A of unit 1, our forces managed to capture 3 MU2 and 2 LEs from the native security armed forces of Tirilolo and,1 AK15 in the camp of Uat. The operation resulted in the death of a combatant of a Falintil and 10 Hansips (Timorese conscripts) on the enemy side.

On 15th Jan, two platoons of one company of battalion 321 stationed in Kademumu, tried to scale the ridge on the southeast of the Mt Builo to capture the resistance population. The people responded to the attempt of the aggressor by rolling rocks from their protecting fortifications, causing the death of twelve Indonesian soldiers, with many gravely wounded and many broken weapons.

The two that were closest to the resistance, had captured from them by the unarmed population, two AR15.

As a reprisal, the cannons of Ossu, Uatulari, Vikeke, and Nahareka, intensely pummelled the mountain for one week, so that they collected their dead and wounded.

On 11th Jan, as a retaliation to our attack over Iliomar, the company A of Unit 1 suffered in Asa-Poro two casualties during one aerial attack by one squadron of three Broncos (Bronco OV 10), without major destruction to our side.

In contrast, one of the Broncos suffered major damage from one Browny machinegun of the already mentioned company which crashed later between Wai-Luli and Geri-Wai, localities near Baucau, when the plane tried to make an emergency landing at the aerodrome of Baucau. One dead and one wounded crew, and the plane totally destroyed, was the end product of the work of our machinegun.

On the 22nd Jan, in Liarapa/Labalok/Luro, one platoon of company A of the 2nd unit captured in one ambush 3 AR15, various equipment and military accessories, from two platoons of the Indonesian batallion 521, leaving out of combat 6 soldiers of the enemy.

On 25th Jan, one platoon of company D of unit 2, in one attack to a military post called Samalaty/Laga, captured one AR15, ammunition, and many hand grenades, combat which resulted in one dead and four wounded to the army of the invader.

On 2nd Feb, a section of company D of the 2nd unit, in Nahe-Uatu Lari thrashed two platoons of CMI which were stationed at the site, resulting in one dead and one wounded on the enemy side.

On 4th Feb, one platoon of company A of the 2nd unit, in an ambush which took place at Ate-Wai/Kelikai, killed four Indonesian soldiers and four others of the auxillary group formed by native Timorese named Railakan.

East Timor, in the tenth year of National Resistance

23/6/85